

The Free Lance

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FREDERICKSBURG, VA., THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1907.

GROUP OF GRADUATES

With Degree of Bachelor of Arts at Fredericksburg College This Session.



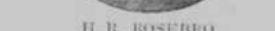
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DAVIS MONUMENT

Memorial to Leader of "Lost Cause" The Work of Women.

UNVEILING CEREMONIES—SPEECHES

Under a perfect sky, with bands playing music very well, and "Majors" were prominent, the remnants of the armies of the gray Monday passed through the streets of Richmond, and on Monument Avenue unveiled an enduring memorial to Jefferson Davis, the first and only President of the Confederate States of America. The event came as the climax of the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

The ceremony was distinctively Southern. No other section had any part in it. The veterans who fought for the "lost cause" were gathered together to pay their tribute to the man whose memory they revered above all others, and their descendants were assembled because it is bred in them to cherish that memory. The speakers commended the teaching of loyalty to the South, for which the Southern States struggled.

That the great multitude had gathered for one purpose alone was evidenced by the attitude of the people toward W. J. Bryan, who was the guest of the reunion. He was given an ovation as he drove through the streets in the line of march. At the conclusion of the ceremony there were a number of calls for him to address the people, but these were immediately drowned in choruses of "No, no, no," many times repeated.

CHORUS OF CELEBRATION.

The objections came fast and were led by the women of the Jefferson Davis Memorial Association. General Robert E. Lee, grand commander, who presided at the stand, announced in ringing tones:

"There will be no politics here."

He turned to the crowd in every direction, shouting this warning, and it had the desired effect. The calls for Bryan ceased at once.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan were seated on the speaker's stand, and as Mr. Bryan was called, Mr. Bryan made a movement as though to withdraw from the stand. The prompt suppression of the call by Gen. Lee and others saved an embarrassing situation.

One of the most touching incidents of the day was the presentation of the descendants of Mr. Davis to the great throng. This occurred at the conclusion of the services by Mrs. J. Addison Hayes, of Colorado Springs. Col. Hayes led forward first and introduced as the daughter of President Davis, and then followed Miss Alice Hayes, Jefferson Hayes Davis, William Davis Hayes, and Mrs. Webb, all children of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes, the great-grandson of Mr. Davis was introduced. The people cheered each one and kept Mrs. Hayes to the front of the stand many minutes, hailing acknowledgments to their plaudits.

LAST GREAT GATHERING.

The event Monday was a fitting close to what is universally recognized as the last great gathering of the Confederate Veterans. It was a feature that drew many thousands from all sections of the South. The unveiling of the monument was the fruition of eighteen years of patient and loving effort and it was a work the South had to do without help. Glowing tributes were paid to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, whose work it was that made the Jefferson Davis Monument Association a success.

All of the work that had been done, and the fifth and last day was devoted wholly to the payment of a tribute to the memory of Jefferson Davis. The streets were brilliantly decorated. There was scarcely a house or business building in the city that was not draped with Confederate colors and bunting.

The grand parade started at 11:30 o'clock. The military feature was similar to the parade on the first day when the statue of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart was unveiled, but there were far more veterans in gray in the line. They appeared to have been saving their strength for this event, and none who could walk shirked the duty. Veterans of every section of the South marched in honor of the president of the Southland. Arrangements had been made to convey the strength of the men, in that the Confederate Veterans were formed in open rank within one mile of the statue, and the modern military organization marched through in review, to be followed by the veterans, the carriage contingent, and auxiliary orders. This entailed no long march for the veterans, and avoided all counter marching in the parade formation. The grand procession was under command of Gen. Stolling of Petersburg, as chief marshal.

DECEASED CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS.

Along the line of march a dense crowd lined the streets, the windows were filled and many of the houses topped over with cheering groups. Flags were waved in beating time to stirring Confederate airs. In the great concourse of veterans' organizations, which proceeded in perfect order, was the most successful of bands and fife and drum corps. Following the veteran section of the parade came the carriage division, carrying many of the women to whom the Confederate soldiers owe nearly every memorial which has been erected in honor of the heroes of the Confederacy.

On the line of march were the statues of Generals Lee and Stuart. The military saluted, the crowd cheered, and the band played "Dixie" and "Maryland." The processions continued to the Davis monument where a short time before many people had assembled. So great was this throng that it was with great difficulty a passage was cleared for the speakers and other visitors to reach the stand.

The ceremonies were opened with a prayer by Rev. Dr. J. William Jones, of Richmond, chaplain general.

The first address was by Gov. Claude A. Swanson, of Virginia. His speech was given to all veterans to Richmond and Virginia.

Mayor Carlton McCarthy, of Richmond, followed, introducing Gen. Evans, of Georgia, as orator of the day.

GEN. EVANS' THOUGHTS.

Gen. Evans began his address with a tribute to the women of the South, through whose efforts the statue of Mr. Davis had been erected. Taking up the influence which had molded the life of the future President of the Confederacy, the speaker traced his lineage from English ancestors. His father and grandfather, on his father's side, had fought in the Revolutionary War, and three brothers had borne arms in the war of

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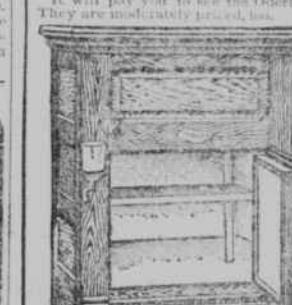
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